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LOCAL NEWS

North Little Rock woman hospitalized after being mauled by eight pit bulls, investigation underway

By Jake Bleiker
Posted: Aug 29, 2023 / 10:37 PM CDT
Updated: Aug 29, 2023 / 07:29 AM CDT

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NORTH LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — A 63-year-old woman remains hospitalized after being attacked by a pack of pit bulls Sunday in a North Little Rock neighborhood, prompting an ongoing investigation and calls for accountability.

North Little Rock Animal Services said the attack occurred Aug. 24 near the 1600 block of Gum Street while the woman, identified as Teresa Williams, was walking to a nearby convenience store.

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According to her daughter, Shardae Nicole Lewis, the dogs were roaming loose and dragged the smaller-framed woman down the street, biting her repeatedly.

"She almost lost her arm," Shardae Lewis said. "They ate her shoulder practically to the bone. She's so badly injured they have to cover her entire body with antibacterial cream."

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Shardae Lewis said a neighbor intervened and stopped the attack — possibly saving her mother's life.

North Little Rock Animal Services seized all eight dogs immediately.

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"Any time a bite occurs, rabies vaccination is the first thing we check," said director Adam Tindall.

He added that his agency has already issued citations for various violations, including for a banned breed, running at large and failure to vaccinate.

Tindall said authorities are still investigating whether the dogs can be returned to their owners and whether criminal charges will follow.

"The investigation is ongoing," he said. "Whether the dogs are returned will depend on the findings and any prior history of aggression."

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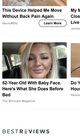

Lewis said she has been told that unless authorities can prove the dogs had previous aggressive incidents, they may simply be returned to their owners — a possibility she described as "appalling."

"My mother deserves justice," she said. "She has already endured excruciating pain. I don't want this to happen to anyone else."

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Teresa Williams remains under medical care and faces multiple surgeries and long-term treatment. Meanwhile, investigators are examining all aspects of the case, including the owners' ability to care for the animals and the conditions in which they were kept.

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